Message Text

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ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 IO-10 FEA-01 ERDA-07

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H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03

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FOR DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY EAGLEBURGER FROM CHARGE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, EFIN, FR, US

SUBJECT: LE POINT ARTICLE MENTIONING ROBINSON AND ENDERS

- 1. FOLLOWING IS EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF PORTION OF ARTICLE BY CLAUDE BONJEAN WHICH APPEARED IN JULY 14 EDITION OF WEEKLY LE POINT. SPECULATING ABOUT A FALL RELAUNCHING OF THE ENERGY CONFERENCE -- WHICH HE DESCRIBES AS GISCARD'S FIRST AMBITIOUS PROJECT -- BONJEAN SAYS THAT THE US NO LONGER OPPOSES A CONSUMER/PRODUCER DIALOGUE. HIS ARTICLE CONCLUDES:
- 2. QUOTE: YES, KISSINGER HAS CHANGED. AND, IN A SIGNIFICANT WAY, HIS MOST HEEDED COUNSELOR ALSO. IT IS NO LONGER THOMAS O. ENDERS, ROUGH 44-YEAR-OLD GIANT, CALLED THE "FASTEST MIND IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT," BUT THE SUPPLE CHARLES ROBINSON, AMIABLE BOW-TIE WEARER, IN HIS 50'S, FORMER PRESIDENT OF A MULTINATIONAL FIRM SPECIALIZING IN MINING IRON ORE AND CURRENTLY UNDER UNCLASSIFIED

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SECRETARY OF STATE. THE TWO MEN ARGUED FOR A LONG TIME

OVER THE BEST METHOD OF NEGOTIATING WITH THE PRODUCERS; AND FOR A LONG TIME ENDERS HAD THE UPPER HAND. HE DREAMED OF ASSURING ENERGY INDEPENDENCE FOR THE UNITED STATES WITHIN TEN YEARS, OF SETTING A FLOOR PRICE SUFFICIENTLY HIGH TO PRESERVE THE COMPETITIVENESS OF OTHER ENERGY SOURCES, AND SECRETLY BREAKING THE PRODUCERS' CARTEL, OPEC. BIT BY BIT HIS DREAM HAS COLLAPSED. AND TODAY THE UNITED STATES IS SAID TO BE READY TO NEGOTIATE UNDER CONDITIONS WHICH SHOULD PLEASE FRANCE. IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN IF THE SAME CONDITIONS WILL SUIT ALGERIA.

3. BUT TIME IS PRESSING. IF IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO ORGANIZE THE ENERGY CONFERENCE BEFORE THE UN SESSION SEPTEMBER 5, IT WILL BE NECESSARY AT LEAST TO ANNOUNCE A DATE BEFORE THE OPEC MEETING IN VIENNA SEPTEMBER 24. IF NOT, THE PRODUCERS, DISCOURAGED, WILL DECIDE TO RAISE THE PRICE OF OIL FURTHER. UNQUOTE. GAMMON

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